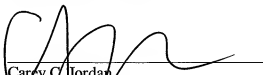


Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), Applicants assert that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

As this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement transmitted herewith is being filed after the mailing date of the first Non-Final Office Action on the merits, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), Applicants believe that no fees are due at this time. Should the Commissioner deem that any fees are due Applicants respectfully request that the Commissioner accept this as a Petition Therefor, and direct that any additional fees be charged to Baker Botts, L.L.P.'s Deposit Account No. 02-0383, Order Number 063718.0187.

Respectfully submitted,



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